

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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August 30, 2011

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

To:

Mayor Michael D. Antonovich

Supervisor Gloria Molina

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

#### SACRAMENTO UPDATE

This memorandum contains an update on County-sponsored legislation related to the drawdown of Federal matching funds to provide medical treatment for detained minors; an update on legislation regarding the disincorporation of the City of Vernon; the status of 23 County-advocacy measures; and a report on the State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fee.

## **Status of County-Sponsored Legislation**

County-sponsored AB 396 (Mitchell), which as amended on August 15, 2011, would allow counties and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to draw down Federal matching funds to reimburse them for the medical treatment of minors who are hospitalized and outside of the detention facilities for more than 24 hours, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee, with amendments, by a vote of 9 to 0 on August 25, 2011. The amendments delete any cost to the State General Fund. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

#### City of Vernon Legislation

County-supported AB 46 (Pérez), which as amended on June 28, 2011 would disincorporate the City of Vernon and make enactment of this measure contingent on the passage of AB 781 (Pérez), failed passage on the Senate Floor by a vote of 13 to 17 on August 29, 2011.

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AB 781 (Pérez), which as amended on July 12, 2011, would enact a successor governance structure for a city that is disincorporated pursuant to pending legislation, and would establish a Community Services District to provide continuation of specified services, transfer certain powers and duties to the county, and require the local agency formation commission to oversee the terms and conditions of the disincorporation, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee's suspense file with amendments, by a vote of 6 to 3 on August 25, 2011. The proposed amendments would allow a county to opt out of the bill's provisions and also would make other clarifying changes. However, as currently written, enactment of this legislation is contingent upon the enactment of AB 46, which has failed passage in the Senate. As a result, AB 781 was placed in the Senate Inactive File on August 29, 2011.

# **Status of County-Advocacy Legislation**

County-opposed unless amended AB 6 (Fuentes), which as amended on August 25, 2011, would maintain the Statewide Fingerprint Imaging System (SFIS) for the CalWORKs Program, eliminate it for the CalFresh Program, change CalWORKs and CalFresh reporting requirements from a quarterly to a semi-annual reporting period, and establish a utility assistance initiative for CalFresh beneficiaries, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote 6 to 3 on August 25, 2011. The amendments are not in print yet; however, as proposed to be amended, the bill maintains the elimination of SFIS for CalFresh applicants who also apply for or receive non-health benefits, such as General Relief. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-supported AB 25 (Hayashi), which as amended on July 6, 2011, would require a school district that elects to offer athletic programs to require an athlete suspected of having a concussion or head injury to be removed from the activity and be cleared by a health care provider before returning to the activity, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 9 to 0 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

**County-opposed AB 341 (Chesbro),** which as amended on July 7, 2011, would increase the mandatory solid waste diversion rate from 50 percent to 75 percent and require local governments to implement a commercial recycling program, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 6 to 3 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-opposed AB 375 (Skinner), which as amended on August 18, 2011, would expand the presumption of work-related injuries to hospital employees infected with blood-borne diseases and Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), passed

the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 6 to 3 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-supported AB 402 (Skinner), which as amended on August 17, 2011, would authorize a school district and county office of education to incorporate CalFresh program information into the School Lunch Program application, passed the Assembly Floor by a vote 52 to 25 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

**County-supported AB 499 (Atkins),** which as introduced on February 17, 2011, would allow a minor age 12 or older to consent to medical care related to the prevention of a sexually transmitted disease, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 6 to 3 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

**County-opposed AB 506 (Wieckowski),** which as amended on August 15, 2011, would require local government participation in a neutral evaluation process prior to filing for bankruptcy, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee, with amendments, by a vote of 6 to 3 on August 25, 2011. The amendments delete reference to the State Auditor. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-supported AB 591 (Wieckowski), which as amended on July 7, 2011, would require well operators to provide the Division of Oil, Geothermal and Gas Resources of the Department of Conservation with information on the types of chemicals injected underground during oil and gas extraction, was held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file on August 25, 2011, due to potential increased State costs and to continue negotiations on the bill. This measure is now a two-year bill.

County-opposed unless amended AB 646 (Atkins), which as amended on June 22, 2011, would authorize an employee organization to request a fact-finding panel to resolve labor disputes when a mediator is unable to reach a settlement, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 6 to 3 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-supported AB 727 (Mitchell), which as amended on May 27, 2011, would require at least 50 percent of the food and beverages sold in vending machines or in cafeterias in State-owned or leased buildings to meet accepted nutritional guidelines, was held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file on August 25, 2011, due to potential increased State costs.

County-opposed AB 947 (Solorio), which as amended on June 28, 2011, would increase the cap on the payment of temporary disability benefits from 104 weeks to up

to 240 weeks, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 6 to 3 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-supported AB 959 (Jones), which as amended on August 25, 2011, would provide a one-month grace period to participants in the CalWORKs and CalFresh programs for filing required quarterly reports in order to avoid re-application, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 9 to 0 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor. The amendments would change the implementation date of AB 959 from January 1, 2012 to July 1, 2012.

County-supported AB 1182 (Hernández), which as amended on August 22, 2011, would delete the requirement that county welfare departments assess the value of a vehicle when determining and re-determining eligibility for applicants and recipients of CalWORKs Program, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 6 to 3 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-supported AB 1297 (Beall), which as amended on July 11, 2011, would conform State claiming and reimbursement for specialty mental health services to Federal Medicaid regulations, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee, with amendments, by a vote of 9 to 0 on August 25, 2011. The amendments delay implementation of the bill from January 1, 2012 to July 1, 2012. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

**County-supported AB 1382 (Hernández),** which as amended on July 7, 2011, would authorize HIV counselors to perform skin punctures for Hepatitis C virus (HCV) or a combination of HIV/HCV tests, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 9 to 0 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-supported SB 33 (Simitian), which as amended on August 18, 2011, would repeal the January 1, 2013 sunset date and make permanent provisions established by SB 1018, (Chapter 140, Statutes of 2005), that expanded the scope of the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act to include officers and employees of financial institutions as mandated reporters of financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult, passed the Assembly Floor by a vote of 78 to 0 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-supported SB 161 (Huff), which as amended on July 13, 2011, would allow, in the absence of a school nurse, non-medical school personnel who have received training on a voluntary basis to administer anti-seizure medication to students who are suffering from epileptic seizures, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee, with amendments, by a vote of 12 to 2 on August 25, 2011. The amendments would make

the provisions of the bill applicable to charter schools. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Floor.

**County-supported SB 397 (Yee),** which as amended on August 15, 2011, would authorize counties to develop and use an electronic voter registration system that will be operable until a statewide system is implemented, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee by a vote of 12 to 5 on August 25, 2011. The measure now proceeds to the Assembly Floor.

**County-supported SB 450 (Lowenthal),** which as amended on August 15, 2011, would impose restrictions and requirements on the use of Low and Moderate Income Housing funds by Redevelopment Agencies, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee by a vote of 17 to 0 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Floor.

**County-opposed SB 469 (Vargas),** which as amended on May 10, 2011, would require the inclusion of an economic impact report in any retail superstore development project permit application submitted to a city, county or city and county, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee by a vote of 12 to 5 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Floor.

County-supported SB 482 (Kehoe), which as amended on June 20, 2011, would transfer the primary responsibility for beach water quality monitoring from the State Department of Public Health to the State Water Resources Control Board, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee by a vote of 11 to 6 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Floor.

**County-supported SB 568 (Lowenthal),** which as amended on July 12, 2011, would prohibit a food vendor from dispensing prepared food to a customer in a polystyrene foam food container, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee by a vote of 9 to 5 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Floor.

County-supported SB 586 (Pavley), which as amended on August 15, 2011, would impose a series of restrictions on the issuance of signature stamps by State-chartered banks and credit unions, and would define how revenues from fines for certain crimes against elder and dependent adults would be dedicated to county Adult Protective Services Programs, passed the Assembly Floor by a vote of 48 to 27 on August 25, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

## **State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fee**

On August 22, 2011, the State Board of Forestry passed emergency regulations to assess a fee on structures in State Responsibility Areas as required under ABX1 29 (Chapter 8, Statutes of 2011). This measure requires the Board of Forestry to establish a fee of up to \$150 per structure to cover some State costs for fire protection and prevention services on privately-owned land in wilderness areas.

The Board of Forestry adopted a base fee of \$90 annually per permanent habitable structure on a parcel, plus \$25 for each additional unit per parcel. The Board also agreed to a series of discounts that would allow homeowners to reduce the fee up to \$65. The emergency regulations will take effect on September 1, 2011 and the Board will meet in October to draft permanent regulations.

The fee is projected to raise approximately \$25.5 million annually before administrative costs of \$12.0 million for inspections, appeals, grant administration, etc. This amount is below the \$50.0 million in revenue projected in the FY 2011-12 State Budget and the \$200.0 million projected annually thereafter. It is anticipated that the Administration will seek clean-up legislation to modify the current law before the Legislature adjourns on September 9, 2011.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA MR:IGEA:sb

c: All Department Heads
County Counsel
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
Buddy Program Participants